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SUBSTANTIAL FEDERAL GUN CHARGES
FILED AGAINST STOCKTON MAN

SACRAMENTO-- United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that a federal grand jury returned a four count indictment charging JULIO FATILUA MUAO, 30, with possessing five different firearms, including a machine gun, and a ballistic vest, after having been convicted of three prior felony offenses (two drug trafficking offenses and one violent offense). The indictment also alleges that MUAO possessed user quantities of cocaine.

This case was investigated by the Stockton Field Office of the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, & Explosives and the Stockton Police Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Richard Bender, who is prosecuting the case, the prosecution is part of Project Exile, a gun program aimed at reducing the number of firearms possessed by persons with previous felony convictions. The maximum statutory penalty for each of the charges of felon in possession of firearm and possession of an unregistered machine gun, is ten years in federal prison. Possession of a ballistic vest by a person convicted of a violent felony is punishable by up to three years in prison, and (straight) possession of cocaine is a misdemeanor punishable by up to one year in prison. Total exposure under the four charges is 24 years in prison. However, the actual sentence will be determined at

the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

The charges are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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